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It is interesting and refreshing, therefore, to find exemplified in a recent book<sup>1</sup> the more modern method of teaching correct form in speech and writing through injecting into the school life types of activities similar to those in which later the pupil may be found functioning, and in which a correct use of the mother tongue is altogether important.

There is in the book a considerable amount of grammatical study, but it is made entirely subservient to certain larger needs to the realization of which the projection of the child into future adult activities contributes strongly. Such activities are letter-writing, story-telling, talks before a class, how to conduct a meeting, how to conduct a school paper, etc. Many opportunities are provided for the correct use of the form learned through the filling in of incomplete sentences. The book abounds in suggestions as to things the pupil may do in order to put into practice the principles learned.

For the teacher faced with the problem of conducting classes in English in the upper grades this book will prove of great worth. It is quite in harmony with modern methods of English teaching.

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*A hymnal for church schools and colleges.*—Schools in search of a new hymnal will be interested in the latest publication of this type<sup>2</sup> edited by Milton S. Littlefield. The book contains 275 hymns covering the usual subjects, but all expressing praise, loyalty, fidelity, heroism, good will and service. The topical classification indicates that the editor consciously selected many of the recent hymns which interpret the religious experience and spiritual ideals of our own day. The book is a collection of great hymns taken from the best in Christian hymnology.

One feature is the inclusion of thirteen selections from oratorios, simple enough for adequate rendering under efficient leadership. The responsive readings are printed in a way to emphasize various forms of Hebrew poetical literature. This plan should create a new interest in these passages from the Bible. Topical services, prayers, and responses give an added value to the book. Schools will find this new publication well worth careful examination.

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*Songs for children.*—The song circle furnishes some of the most delightful hours the family spends together. Sidney Homer in writing a book of songs<sup>3</sup> hit on the happy idea of setting Mother Goose to music in such fashion that all of the family circle would enjoy it.

<sup>1</sup> H. C. PEARSON and MARY F. KIRCHWEY, *Essentials of English—Higher Grades*. New York: American Book Co., 1920. Pp. ix+469.

<sup>2</sup> MILTON S. LITTLEFIELD, editor, *The School Hymnal*. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co., 1920. Pp. x+310.

<sup>3</sup> SIDNEY HOMER, *Songs from Mother Goose*. Illustrated. New York: Macmillan Co., 1920. Pp. v+83.